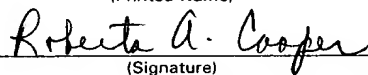




Application Serial No.: 09/941,339

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Frank Muller-Rinke  
Title: SEPARATOR FOR LEAD  
STORAGE BATTERIES  
Appl. No.: 09/941,339  
Filing Date: 08/29/2001  
Examiner: Jonathan Crepeau  
Art Unit: 1746  
Conf. No.: 5922  
Atty. Dkt. No.: 054821-0837  
(formerly 1245-01)

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

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Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(c), before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 CFR §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

**FEE**

A fee in connection with submission of an information disclosure statement under 37 CFR §1.97(c) in the amount of \$180.00 in accordance with 37 CFR §1.17(p) is attached.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

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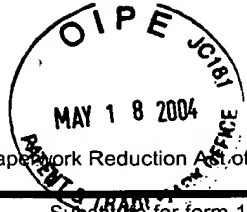
Respectfully submitted,

Date 5/18/04

By 

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Marcus W. Sprow  
Attorney for Applicant  
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| Examiner Name          | Jonathan Crepeau   |
| Attorney Docket Number | 054821-0837        |

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | U.S. Patent Document |                                      | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited<br>Document | Date of Publication of<br>Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|
|                       |                          | Number               | Kind Code <sup>2</sup><br>(if known) |   |  |  |
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| First Named Inventor   | Frank Muller-Rinke |
| Group Art Unit         | 1746               |
| Examiner Name          | Jonathan Crepeau   |
| Attorney Docket Number | 054821-0837        |

Sheet 2 of 4

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | U.S. Patent Document |                                      | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|
|                    |                       | Number               | Kind Code <sup>2</sup><br>(if known) |   |  |   |
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| Sheet | 3 | of | 4 |
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| <b>Group Art Unit</b>         | 1746               |
| <b>Examiner Name</b>          | Jonathan Crepeau   |
| <b>Attorney Docket Number</b> | 054821-0837        |

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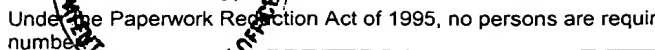
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